

United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Northeastern Area
State and Private
Forestry

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Morgantown, WV 26505

FWS
IN/MD/WS
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Reply To: 3460

Date: January 23, 1991

Mr. Don Young
Assistant Regional Director
USDI Fish and Wildlife Service
1 Gateway Center, Suite 700
Newton Corner, MA 02158

Dear Mr. Young:

Enclosed are the results of the 1987-1990 gypsy moth trapping program for six U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service sites within your Region (Table 1). The purpose of the trapping program is to monitor low level gypsy moth populations and to determine when more quantifiable survey methods (egg mass surveys) should be employed.

Gypsy moth catches at Blackwater and Eastern Neck National Wildlife Refuges averaged 687 and 1050 moths per trap, respectively in 1990. These sites can now be dropped from the trapping program since they both are in areas that are generally infested by gypsy moth. Egg mass surveys were also conducted at these sites in 1990. (See Egg Mass Survey Report dated 1/2/90.)

Gypsy moth catches at Bowden National Fish Hatchery and Ottawa National Wildlife Refuge are still low, averaging 15 and 4 moths per trap, respectively. It will be a few years before gypsy moth populations are sufficient to cause any noticeable defoliation. Egg mass surveys are not necessary at either site at the present time and trapping should continue at the same intensity in 1991.

Although traps were sent to Muscatatuck National Wildlife Refuge and White Sulphur Springs National Fish Hatchery, no traps were deployed at either site. The traps for Muscatatuck NWR were mistakenly sent to a person who has retired and the current staff did not receive the traps. The traps for White Sulphur Springs NFH were "lost in the shuffle" when the new resource manager started. The traps were discovered later but it was too late for trap deployment. The trapping program should continue at both of these sites in 1991.

If you have any questions about these results, please contact Rod Whiteman or me at 304-291-4133. We thank you for your continued participation in the gypsy moth trapping program.

Sincerely,

Rodney R. Whiteman

lin NOEL F. SCHNEEBERGER
Entomologist
Forest Pest Management

cc: AO

Jeff A. Nagel, Ottawa NWR
William Giese, Blackwater NWR
Robert Lamoy, Eastern Neck NWR
Jack Jones, Bowden NFH
Lee Hertzberger, Muscatatuck NWR
Don Clements, White Sulphur Springs NFH

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